

UNIVERSITY *of* HOUSTON
MANUAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION: Campus Sustainability
AREA: Operations

Number: 14.01.02

SUBJECT: Sustainable Dining Services

I. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to prescribe guidelines for sustainability in campus dining operations.

II. Policy Statement

The University of Houston is committed to incorporating sustainable practices into its dining program when operationally feasible and where these practices are in support of the criteria defined by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). The university also commits to manage its food waste in a way that minimizes the university's impact on the environment.

In keeping with this philosophy, University Dining Services will:

- A. Support a tray-less environment in the university's residential dining halls to reduce food waste.
- B. Use AASHE STARS criteria in establishing appropriate Fair Trade standards for the campus. Fair Trade offerings, purchases, events, and maps of locations where Fair Trade is offered will be posted on the Green UH [web site](#). **Educational materials explaining Fair Trade and Free Trade will be provided at on-campus coffee locations to educate consumers. The Task Force will work with the university's Economics Department to develop and update these materials as appropriate.**
- C. Serve a vegan and/or vegetarian option at every meal in the university's residential dining halls.
- D. Encourage participation by the university's Food and Nutrition Program in developing menu items for the residential dining program.**
- E. Participate in a campus composting program.

III. Responsibilities

- A. University Dining Services is responsible for ensuring that the above objectives are met and providing reports as requested to the Office of University Services, as required by AASHE.

- B. The Office of University Services will publish online information as available and report activities to the Campus Sustainability Task Force.
- C. Information and updates on these activities will be available on the Green UH [web site](#).

DRAFT